

Let me repeat that: Jefferson replaced what John Locke had written, "the pursuit of property." Jefferson replaced it with "the pursuit of happiness." Here is the meaning as underlined by Jefferson's own hand. "Thus the pursuit of virtue and morality is the pursuit of happiness." Doesn't that place that in rather a different light than say situation comedies or modern theoretical thought?

Doesn't that sort of suggest that the core principles of the American system are remarkably faith-based. There is a reason that Washington's first inaugural and Washington's farewell address are replete with references to God and morality, and there is a reason that the Declaration of Independence says, "We hold these truths to be self evident, that we are endowed by our creator \* \* \* that we pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor."

That Lincoln 12 times in the second inaugural refers to God as the almighty in explaining America. That Jefferson in his memorial has around the top of it, "I have sworn upon the altar of God Almighty eternal hostility against all forms of tyranny over the minds of men." And to get to a drug-free America where every child is learning and children are born into families that can raise them does require a faith-based society and a society that returns to its roots.

These may seem like big grandiose goals. Let me cite for you why it is very American to have goals that are in fact larger than you think. The story of George Washington \* \* \* that the great seal of the United States was adopted by the Continental Congress in 1782. We weren't yet a free country. On one side is a majestic eagle.

The other side, less familiar, is the unfinished pyramid with the date 1776 in Roman numerals on its base. Below is the motto: a new order for the ages, self-conscious break with history, identified with the hopes and the futures of mankind by design and intention. Nash adds, "hovering above the pyramid is a symbolic unblinking eye, the eye of God. And placed there is another motto: He has favored our undertaking."

I believe if we will return to that which has made us a unique country, that we will recognize that we are a great nation filled with good people who will call upon all those people, not the federal government, not the bureaucracy, not the law, but all of our people in all of our communities, we will in fact awake on January 1, 2001 a country that is virtually drug-free, in which practically every child is learning at their best rate, and in which children are born into families that can actually raise them.

And I believe that those three tasks have to be done and when done we will be able to say to our children, we have given you a country that is economically in order, is socially in order and where we have reestablished the framework of freedom. And now it is your generation's turn to lead the rest of the human race to that kind of a promised land.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO WESLEY GAINES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the Wesley Gaines Elementary School, located in the Paramount unified school district. Wesley Gaines is one of 99 schools being honored as a title I national recognition

school, by the Department of Education and the National Association of State Coordinators of Compensatory Education, and is one of five from California. The association's goal is to focus the Nation's attention on programs in high poverty areas where disadvantaged students demonstrate unusual success in raising their achievement levels in basic and more advanced skills. Wesley Gaines met the six criteria required for this honor, and received their recognition in Atlanta on May 6, 1997, at the International Reading Association Conference. In April, Wesley Gaines was recognized by the California Department of Education as a California title I achieving school. I am proud to have such an honored school in the 38th Congressional District.

This achievement has not come easy. Paramount school Superintendent Michele Lawrence and Wesley Gaines Principal Susan Lance have made a commitment to develop and maintain the Gaines community, which is not just physical buildings, but a philosophy that underscores the importance of education as a joint venture between the home, the school, and the community. The goal of the Gaines community is to prepare students to become responsible citizens and productive members of the society. To achieve this, students need to be proficient in reading, writing, mathematics, and have a positive character behavior—which includes good work habits, teamwork, perseverance, honesty, self-reliance, and consideration for others.

Through several key features, the Gaines community has been able to achieve these goals. The primary component has been a balanced literacy program, utilizing title I funds. All existing and incoming teachers receive training in specific, researched-based reading and writing strategies, including theory, program expectations, and implementation expectations. Additionally, Wesley Gaines has five reading recovery teachers who work with targeted at risk first graders and provides assistance to staff, as well as a site literacy Teacher, who acts as a partner-teacher to all staff.

Parent involvement is a critical part of the effort, and programs for parent-training help to support students' reading efforts at home. Program examples are "I Have A Parent Who Reads to Me" for kindergarten and first grades; "WOW! I Can Read" for second grades; and "Book Bridges" for off-track students. A parent task force is very active with the site-based decision-making model and coordinates support activities, such as a minimum of three parent visitation days and family nights each year. One example of this program's success is the parent attendance rate at parent conferences: more than 97 percent of Wesley Gaines parents attend their parent-teacher conferences.

The overall success has been achieved and maintained regardless of some district wide changes: extension of the school day; implementation of a four-track, year-round schedule, adding grades 6 to 8 to Wesley Gaines' K-5 campus; redefining each school's attendance boundaries, which at Wesley Gaines led to an increase of 850 new students; and implementing a new school uniform policy.

It is obvious that Wesley Gaines deserves this honor. The students, teachers, and staff have worked hard and it has paid off. They recognized where their focus needed to be, devised a plan that efficiently used their re-

sources, implemented their plan, and continue to reevaluate and reassess the quality of work they do, making changes as they go. And I am pleased to see that they recruited the best support group possible: parents. The level of commitment Wesley Gaines parents show has been, without a doubt, a key to their success. I would wish that all schools could have as much parental support as Wesley Gaines does. After all, it will take the entire community to educate and prepare our children for the 21st century.

I congratulate Superintendent Lawrence, Principal Lance, the entire staff, faculty, parents and students of the Gaines Elementary School community. I wish them many more years of success.

#### ROUTE 66

#### HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, Route 66 conjures up memories about America's love affair with the automobile along a road into the Nation's heartland. Restaurants, motels, gas stations sprang up to serve the travelers and commerce as the highway moved west.

Today, Route 66 is mostly a nostalgic memory. Many of those early American developments along the Route 66's old path have been bulldozed away. Traffic on old Route 66 in Springfield, MO, gave birth to the Rail Haven Motor Court at Glenstone and St. Louis Street which remains one of the city's busiest and best known locations. When it was built in an orchard, the motor court sat on the intersection of U.S. Highways 66, 65, and 60. No major improvements had been made since the early 1960's at Rail Haven.

New owner Gordon Elliott, president and owner of Elliott Lodging, saw the real potential to save the deteriorating motel. In 1994, rather than bulldoze the historic old building, Gordon's vision included a renovated and expanded classic 1950's motel property. Gordon Elliott blended community renewal, development of a classic historic property, and risking private money to produce a successful venture that has rejuvenated one key intersection in his home community. The facelift for the property was completed without Federal grants, loans or tax abatements.

Elliott's refurbished motel has been a hit with patrons of a new generation. Building on public interest in nostalgia and the appeal of historic Route 66, the property became the best Western Sycamore Inn. Elliott's has marketed the Sycamore Inn for lovers of Route 66, tourists and business travelers. It has been so successful, Elliott is renaming the property the Best Western Route 66 Rail Haven in a public ceremony on June 12, 1997, to reestablish its historic roots.

The Best Western Rail Haven Motel's history has been featured in several publications including the quarterly magazine of "The Route 66 Association of Missouri" and "Missouri U.S. Tour Book."

The Route 66 Rail Haven is a look into our past with attention to detail in the modern transformation. Craftsmen will install the signature split rail fences long associated with the old motel built in 1938. The new 93-room